

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT:	William D. Brown, et al.	§	ART UNIT NO.: 1731
		§	
FILED:	December 7, 2000	§	EXAMINER: C. Fiorilla
		§	
SERIAL NO.:		§	
		§	
TITLE:	<i>Process and Apparatus for</i>	§	DOCKET NO. 23354/49C2
	<i>Sequential Multi-Beam Laser</i>	§	
	<i>Processing of Materials</i>	§	

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

The Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Please enter this **Preliminary Amendment** prior to any substantive examination of this Continuation. The following Amendments are respectfully submitted.

AMENDMENTS

In the specification

At page 1, line 2, please delete "This" and insert therefore:

This application is a continuation application of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/946,712 filed October 8, 1997, which claims priority of U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/028,250 filed October 8, 1996.